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Message Text

SECRET

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53
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAJ-01 OMB-01

ACDA-19 NIC-01 DRC-01 /123 W
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O R 181626Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 927
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
/USMISSION USUN 3638

S E C R E T MOSCOW 11131

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UR, CY
SUBJECT: SOVIET CALCULATIONS ON CYPRUS

1. ALTHOUGH THE CYPRUS SITUATION REMAINS UNCLEAR, IT MAY BE USEFUL TO OFFER SOME PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS ABOUT SOVIET CALCULATIONS.

2. I ASSUME THAT THE PRINCIPAL SOVIET PREOCCUPATION CONTINUES TO BE CYPRIOT INDEPENDENCE AND NEUTRALITY, FOR OBVIOUS STRATEGIC REASONS.

3. WHILE HOSTILITIES BETWEEN TWO NATO MEMBERS MIGHT SEEM SUPERFICIALLY ATTRACTIVE FROM THE SOVIET POINT OF VIEW, MOSCOW CAN WITHOUT MUCH DIFFICULTY SEE THAT THE LIKELY RESULT WOULD BE THE END OF CYPRUS' INDEPENDENCE. THIS PRESUMABLY HELPS EXPLAIN THE REPORTED SOVIET DEMARCHE IN ANKARA CALLING FOR MODERATION. MOSCOW
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PROBABLY ESTIMATES THAT A TURKISH MILITARY MOVE WOULD

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RESULT IN A SUCCESSFUL TURKISH OCCUPATION OF THE ISLAND, OR PARTITION WITH GREECE.

4. I SEE LITTLE PROSPECT FOR DIRECT SOVIET INTERVENTION TO RESTORE MAKARIOS, UNLESS EVENTS SEEMED TO BE MOVING TOWARD PARTITION. IN THAT EVENT, I WOULD NOT EXCLUDE THREATS OF UNILATERAL ACTION. CONCEIVABLY A SITUATION COULD EVEN DEVELOP IN WHICH THEY WOULD ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT THEIR THREAT.

5. THEIR PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES SEEM TO BE AIMED AT CAPITALIZING ON THEIR SUPPORT OF A WELL-KNOWN NON-ALIGNED FIGURE AGAINST NATO MACHINATIONS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME TRYING TO ASSURE THAT EVEN IF THOSE NOW IN CONTROL ON CYPRUS BECOME LEGITIMATED THEY WILL BE DETERRED FROM MOVING TOWARD ENOSSIS.

6. SOVIET CALCULATIONS REGARDING THE SECURITY COUNCIL ARE LESS CLEAR. THEY MAY NOT BE COMFORTABLE WITH THE PRECEDENT OF HAVING AN OUSTED HEAD OF STATE PRESENT HIS CASE IN THE SC. THEY MAY HAVE TO DO SOME SWIMMING WITH THE TIDE IN THE DEBATES. I THINK THE THRUST OF THEIR EFFORTS IN THE UN AND ELSEWHERE WILL BE TO PRESERVE CYPRUS' INDEPENDENCE BY ONE MEANS OR ANOTHER. STOESSEL

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